

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An actuator comprising:

a stator wafer;

a micro-mover above said stator wafer;

one or more stator electrodes protruding from a section of a stator wafer surface wherein said section of said stator wafer surface is a substantially flat, continuous plane that is closest to said micro-mover, and wherein said one or more stator electrodes protrude from the same flat, continuous plane on said stator wafer surface;

one or more actuator electrodes protruding from a section of a micro-mover surface, wherein said section of said micro-mover surface is a substantially flat, continuous plane that is closest to said stator wafer, and wherein said one or micro-mover electrodes protrude from the same flat, continuous plane on said micro-mover surface; and

one or more bumpers positioned on said stator wafer surface or said micro-mover surface or both surfaces, wherein ~~the number of bumpers is equal to or smaller than, the number of electrodes on the same surface~~ at least one bumper comprises a metal.

2. (Currently Amended) The actuator of claim 1, wherein said one or more stator electrodes include a first stator electrode and a second stator electrode, and wherein at least one of said one or more bumpers protrude from said stator wafer surface between said first and second stator electrodes.

Claim 3 (Previously Canceled).

4. (Previously Amended) The actuator of claim 2, said one or more bumpers protrude from said stator wafer surface at least twice as much as said one or more stator electrodes.

5. (Currently Amended) The actuator of claim 1, wherein said one or more actuator electrodes include a first actuator electrode and a second actuator electrode, and wherein at least one of said one or more bumpers protrude from said micro-mover surface between said first and second actuator electrodes.

Claim 6 (Previously Canceled).

7. (Previously Amended) The actuator of claim 5, wherein said one or more bumpers protrude from said micro-mover surface at least twice as far as said one or more actuator electrode.

8. (Currently Amended) The actuator of claim 1, wherein said ~~one or more bumpers comprise~~ at least one bumper is further comprises of a metal and a dielectric.

Claims 9 - 20 (Previously Canceled).

21. (Previously Added) The actuator of claim 1, wherein said one or more bumpers are positioned on both said stator wafer surface and said micro-mover surface.

22. (Currently Added) The actuator of claim 1, wherein the metal of said at least one bumper is electrically grounded.

23. (Currently Added) The actuator of claim 1, wherein said one or more bumpers comprise a plurality of discreet posts, and wherein the number of bumpers is equal to or smaller than, the number of electrodes on the same surface.

24. (Currently Added) The actuator of claim 23, wherein said plurality of discreet posts are positioned on said stator wafer surface or said micro-mover surface to form a triangular pattern across the same surface.

25. (Currently Added) The actuator of claim 23, wherein said plurality of discreet posts are positioned on said stator wafer surface or said micro-mover surface to form a square pattern across the same surface.

26. (Currently Added) The actuator of claim 1, wherein said one or more bumpers comprises at least one bumper overlying at least a portion of at least one of said stator electrodes or said actuator electrodes.